

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON DIRECTOR

June 28, 2017

Dear County Training Committee Chairpersons:

I hope this letter finds you enjoying summer and all the recreation that our state has to offer. The intent of this letter is to share with you the Bureau of Fire Services (BFS), Fire Fighter Training Division's (FFTD) plan to spend the remaining Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) fireworks training funds in an effort to expand firefighter knowledge statewide. The objective of this statewide training plan is to provide *free* training (Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council (MFFTC) curriculum classes and other pre-approved "Q" courses), with the goal of spending the entire balance of the FY17 fireworks training funds. With 93 days left in FY17, this plan must be aggressive and requires a team effort. As such, I feel it is important that you understand why the deadlines have been established.

On June 22, 2017, all of the fireworks and HMEP (haz-mat) funds available (due to cancelled classes or unencumbered money) was removed from each county in SMOKE. I want to assure you that the BFS knows what each county had as of this date and that we want each county to spend their allotted money. *Please note:* The process to use the available money has been modified and the BFS will need all of the information outlined below in order to process training requests for the remainder of FY17.

To use available county funds for MFFTC/FFTD curriculum classes or other pre-approved Non-SMOKE ("Q") courses, please contact your FFTD Region Coordinator (RC) and provide the following information *no later than July 7, 2017.*

- Course Manager
- Each county must provide the date(s) of the training
- Location of the training (sponsoring organization)
- Time of training
- Instructor that will be providing the training

Upon receipt, the FFTD RC will then enter (schedule) the class into the SMOKE system, coordinating the use of *your county funds*. *Note:* The FFTD RCs must schedule all requested training. After July 7, 2017, all available training money will be used to fund free training opportunities that will be available to every firefighter in the state. All training must be completed by September 30, 2017.

Please share with the fire departments in your county that after July 7, 2017, all remaining training funds are available. To apply for available training funds for your county, or if an individual fire department would like to apply, they must complete a Non-Smoke County Training Fund Application and provide the information below. The form must be sent to LARA-

<u>BFS-SMOKE@michigan.gov</u> as soon as possible. To improve your chance of receiving available FY17 fireworks training funds, the application must provide as much information as possible. Specifically:

- Is this class an approved MFFTC/FFTD curriculum or a previously approved non-SMOKE "Q" class?
- What knowledge and information will this training provide to the Michigan fire service?
- · How many people can attend the training?
- Will the course be open to all firefighters in Michigan?
- What is the total cost?
- What are the dates for the training?
- Where will the training be held? (Sponsoring organization. Please include the address.)
- Who will be the instructor(s)?
- Will the training be completed by September 30, 2017?

It may be possible to get a "Non-SMOKE" class approved at the next MFFTC Meeting on August 8, 2017. Again, the "Q" course application must include all the information requested above. The application must submitted to LARA-BFS-SMOKE@michigan.gov by noon on Tuesday July 25, 2017 for consideration at the August MFFTC meeting. Keep in mind that completing a Non-SMOKE "Q" class application does not guarantee that the MFTTC will approve your request and that the applicant should attend the MFFTC meeting on August 8, 2017, to be able to available to answer questions and provide clarification as needed.

If you have any questions about obtaining or spending FY17 fireworks training funds, please <u>contact</u> your RC. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and team effort to reach our goal of spending all of the FY17 fireworks training funds and providing quality training for the firefighters in Michigan.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Sehlmeyer

State Fire Marshal/Director

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Bureau of Fire Services